

Floyd Petersen, Mayor Stan Brauer, Mayor pro tempore Robert Christman, Councilmember Robert Ziprick, Councilmember Charles Umeda, Councilmember

COUNCIL AGENDA:

September 13, 2005

TO:

City Council

VIA:

Dennis R. Halloway, City Manager

FROM:

T. Jarb Thaipeir, Public Works Director/City Engineer

SUBJECT:

Award of Contract to Conduct Feasibility Study for Railroad Crossing Ouite

Zone.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council award a contract to Hanson Wilson Inc. for \$11,027 to conduct a feasibility study for a railroad crossing quite zone.

BACKGROUND

The City Council directed staff to investigate the possibility of establishing a quite zone at the railroad crossings on Whittier Avenue and Beaumont Avenue. The Federal government has recently enacted a ruling allowing local governments, under very strict guidelines, to alter the way warnings are provided at railroad crossings. Previously, three blasts from train mounted horns were required prior to each crossing.

ANALYSIS

The Federal Railroad Administration is the governing agency this nations railroads. Their latest ruling concerning warning systems for at-grade crossings was released and became effective in April 2005. Staff researched and located one southern California firm that has performed work associated with the new ruling. Hanson Wilson Inc. of San Bernardino has provided Quite Zone work for three California cities. The most recent work, a feasibility study for Encinitas, was completed February 28, 2005. The study addressed issues required by the new ruling and requested by the City, including supplemental safety measures, risk, noise and impacts.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funding will be provided from account 08-5340-8500 - Measure I fund balance.